

Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

COME-00 TRSE-00 FCSC-01 /060 W

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R 120930Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2079

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OTRA, CPRS, EFIN, EG, US

SUBJ: US CLAIMS AGAINST EGYPT

REF: STATE 24050

1. APPRECIATE HUANG'S UNDERSTANDING. HOPEFUL WE CAN ACTIVATE
PROCESS OF CLAIMS SETTLEMENT IN MARCH.

2. HAVE HAD NO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH EGYPTIANS ON SUBJECT
SINCE THOSE REPORTED CAIRO 9128. HAVE HELD UP DOING SO
PENDING DEPT'S REACTION TO OUR RECOMMENDATION THAT WE MAKE
EVERY EFFORT TO HAVE OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE CLAIMS HANDLED SEPA-
RATELY. APART FROM THIS, UNDER SEC DEWIDAR, WHO IS
CHARGED WITH HANDLING CLAIMS OF US CITIZENS AGAINST GOE, HAS
BEEN IN EUROPE AND WILL NOT RETURN UNTIL LATER THIS WEEK.

3. WE UNDERSTAND L TENDS TO PREFER OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE CLAIMS
TOGETHER. OUR RATIONALE FOR WANTING PUBLIC CLAIMS HANDLED
SEPARATELY, PREFERABLY THROUGH FONMIN, IS PROMPTED BY OUR DESIRE
OBTAIN AT LEAST A PARTIAL SETTLEMENT OF THESE CLAIMS IN KIND.
SPECIFICALLY, FOLLOWING BURNING OF USIS LIBRARY IN 1964, GOE MADE
AVAILABLE AN EXCELLENT SEQUESTERED BUILDING WITHIN A BLOCK OF THE
EMBASSY COMPOUND TO HOUSE LIBRARY UNTIL SUCH TIME AS NEW
PREMISES FOUND. IN SUBSEQUENT CLAIMS DISCUSSIONS, GOE HAD
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REACHED A POINT IN 1967 WHERE IT HAD AGREED TRANSFER TO US PERMANENT

TITLE TO TEMPORARY USIS PREMISES IN SETTLEMENT OF CLAIM FOR BURNED LIBRARY STRUCTURE. SEVERANCE OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN JUNE 1967 ABORTED TRANSFER. HOWEVER, WE HAVE EVER SINCE USED THAT BUILDING, WHICH TODAY AGAIN HOUSES USIS LIBRARY. USIA HAS RECENTLY INVESTED FUNDS IN IT FOR IMPROVEMENTS. GIVEN DIFFICULTY OF OBTAINING SUITABLE PREMISES, WE WOULD LIKE TO PRESS GOE TO PROCEED ALONG LINES EARLIER PRE-1967 UNDERSTANDING AND TRANSFER TITLE TO USG. WE ARE CONCERNED THAT SIMPLY LUMPING MONETARY VALUE OF BURNED USIS BUILDING WITH OTHER CLAIMS WILL MEAN ULTIMATE DISCOUNTING OF OVERALL FIGURE AND LEAVE US WITHOUT SUITABLE LIBRARY PREMISES.

4. WILL TAKE SUITABLE OPPORTUNITY MENTION TO DEWIDAR WHEN HE RETURNS THAT PRELIMINARY MEETINGS MIGHT BEGIN LATE MARCH WITH HUANG PRESENT. HOWEVER, AGAIN REQUEST DEPT'S CONCURRENCE TO INFORM GOE THAT FOR THE MOMENT AT LEAST OFFICIAL USG CLAIMS WILL NOT BE HANDLED IN JOINT COMMITTEE, BUT THROUGH DIRECT DISCUSSIONS WITH MFA. THIS WOULD APPEAR TO BE CONSISTENT WITH STATE 58241 OF MARCH 23, 1974. WHEN AND IF TITLE TO PRESENT USIS LIBRARY IS SECURED, WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO REMAINING USG OFFICIAL CLAIMS BEING HANDLED JOINTLY WITH PRIVATE CLAIMS.

5. WOULD BE HELPFUL TO KNOW IF HUANG WILL BE BRINGING LIST OF PRIVATE CLAIMANTS REQUESTED LAST SPRING BY PRIMIN HEGAZY OR ANY PERTINENT INFORMATION RE STATUS OF CLAIMS LIST.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 12 FEB 1975
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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